

MELANIE E. GRIMES

MEDIATOR

TMCA CREDENTIALLED DISTINGUISHED MEDIATOR

Two-hour rate:
\$275 per party
Half-day rate:
\$475 per party
Six-hour rate:
\$650 per party
Full-day rate:
\$775 per party

MEDIATION EXPERIENCE

1400+ mediations → 96% settlement rate

ATTORNEYS' WRITTEN COMMENTS

"Utterly *magnificent* job...on a very difficult and legally complex case." LAWRENCE ACKELS, JR., DALLAS

"Outstanding mediator." HON. JOHN ROACH, JR., PLANO

"Melanie was wonderful, professional, knowledgeable, creative, very good client control; very, very impressed. Would advise any attorney or parties in dispute to mediate with her." SHELLY SKEEN, DALLAS

"Melanie is an incredibly effective mediator. She kept the parties on track beautifully and her superb skills allowed the parties to reach a mutually beneficial agreement in a case where, hours prior to mediation, there was very little chance it would settle." HON. C. ANDREW TEN EYCK, DALLAS

"Wow! I never thought this case would settle! She was marvelous." "Once again, Melanie pulled off a miracle." STEVE SHAW, DALLAS

"Melanie did an exceptional job in an impossible case." DAVID WEAVER, DALLAS

"I can say this without reservation—this was the best mediation experience in my 13 years of practice. (I have participated in hundreds of mediations and/or settlement conferences.) And please know I have worked with some (if not many) wonderful mediators."

"The noticeable difference that sets Melanie positively apart from a number of mediators is her ability or talent to identify the 'gut issues' that are the true thistles between the parties."

"Excellent job! I really enjoyed this mediator." "[Melanie] was excellent."

"Ms. Grimes was thorough in factual detail and tenacious at the critical moment; an excellent mediator."

"This very difficult case could not have settled without Melanie's skillful mediation efforts. I have been to many mediations—I was impressed."

"Melanie—you continue to impress—both me and my clients! You bring a calm and compassion to an otherwise tense situation that seems to make folks want to work together—and it gets things worked out. You're at the top of my list! Thank you!"

"A great job with an impossible case."

"This was a great mediation session. Melanie was able to keep everyone relaxed and open to communication. She utilizes the best parts of most successful mediators' styles."

DESIGNATIONS/ STUDIES

Texas Mediator Credentialing Association "Credentialed Distinguished Mediator" (highest designation)

2018 Susanne C. Adams Award, Texas Association of Mediators

"Outstanding Mediator of the Year," Dispute Mediation Service, Dallas County

Advanced Mediation Training Courses (500+ hrs)

Mediation & Dispute Resolution, under John Wade of Bond University, Queensland, Australia

Domestic Relations & Dispute Resolution, under Nina Meierding of Pepperdine University, Malibu, CA

Master of Liberal Arts, Southern Methodist University, 1997; BBA, Baylor University, 1983

AFFILIATIONS/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Texas Mediator Credentialing Association, Chair, Board of Directors

Texas Association of Mediators, Member, Board of Directors (former President)

Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) for children in foster care (seven years)

Past Board of Director roles for Dispute Mediation Service, a nonprofit private school, and a rape crisis center

Past Board of Director Chairperson roles for two churches and the East Dallas Cooperative Parish

BUSINESS EXPERIENCE

20+ years in senior-level or executive-level corporate management

PARTIES' WRITTEN COMMENTS

"Melanie is incredible in her job. She is very creative, sensitive to each party, intelligent, capable and extremely motivating."

"Melanie was proficient, insightful and willing to work hard to reach a settlement."

"[Melanie's] skills are extraordinary."

"I would highly recommend Ms. Grimes as a mediator for any type dispute."

"This settlement would not have happened with any other mediator. Melanie did an excellent job!"

"Very good; made me feel comfortable; listens well; also has good, fresh ideas for resolution."

"I can't say enough about the mediator's help."

"She was wonderful. I thought this would have gone to trial. A great session."

"She was a very wonderful mediator. I could not have expected better."

"[Melanie] was definitely very knowledgeable of the mediation process and I felt she worked very hard to eliminate tensions before they arose. Thank you."

"Felt Melanie did a very good job with a very difficult and very emotional situation. She is very 'gifted' as a mediator. I would recommend her to others."

"Melanie made this a much more comfortable experience than I would have thought it to be."

"Incredible! We never expected to settle!"

"Melanie was very knowledgeable and very personable—very effective at her job."

"I was greatly impressed by the outcome of this mediation. Ms. Grimes is a wonderful individual inside and out. Her skills and achievements show her success on my case. Thank you—EXCELLENT!!"

"Very trustworthy and made me feel comfortable and relaxed as could be."

"Melanie is a miracle worker. I am very satisfied with the results. Thank you! It was a pleasure working with you."

"Excellent mediator. Process almost painless."

"Really enjoyable."

"Excellent! Mediator did an incredible job."

"Without reservation I would recommend Melanie—she made the seemingly impossible possible. I will forever be grateful."